United Nations E/RES/2016/1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2016

2016 session
Agenda item 2

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 24 July 2015

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2015/L.1)*]

2016/1. Working arrangements for the 2016 session of the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 61/16 of 20 November 2006 and 68/1 of 20 September 2013 concerning the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

Reiterating that, as a principal organ of the United Nations, the Council is entitled to hold ad hoc meetings as and when needed, with full substantive support and conference services, to address urgent developments in the economic, social, environmental and related fields,

Noting that the arrangements set forth in the annex to General Assembly resolution 68/1 should not lead to an increase in the number of meeting days currently provided for the Council,

Acknowledging that, in scheduling its sessions, meetings and consultations, the Council should take into consideration meetings of other bodies dealing with economic, social and environmental issues to avoid unnecessary overlapping and overburdening of their agendas,

Bearing in mind that the outcome of intergovernmental processes such as the third International Conference on Financing for Development and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda may have an impact on its programme of work,

Decides on the following working arrangements for the 2016 session of the Economic and Social Council, mindful that it may need to convene additional meetings as needed:

(*a*) The coordination and management meetings will be held from Monday, 4 April, to Wednesday, 6 April 2016; from Wednesday, 1 June, to Friday, 3 June 2016; and from Monday, 25 July, to Wednesday, 27 July 2016;

(*b*) The youth forum will be held on Monday, 1 February, and Tuesday, 2 February 2016;

(*c*) The operational activities for development segment will be held from Monday, 22 February, to Wednesday, 24 February 2016;

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(*d*) The partnership forum will be held on Thursday, 31 March 2016;

(*e*) The special high-level meeting of the Council with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will be held on Monday, 18 April, and Tuesday, 19 April 2016;

(*f*) The one-day special meeting of the Council on international cooperation in tax matters will be held on Friday, 22 April 2016;

(*g*) The integration segment will be held from Monday, 2 May, to Wednesday, 4 May 2016;

(*h*) The humanitarian affairs segment will be held from Monday, 20 June, to Wednesday, 22 June 2016;

(*i*) The high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, will be held from Monday, 11 July, to Friday, 15 July 2016; the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum will be held from Monday, 18 July, to Wednesday, 20 July 2016;

(*j*) The high-level segment, including the three-day ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, and the biennial Development Cooperation Forum, will be held from Monday, 18 July, to Friday, 22 July 2016;

(*k*) The organizational session regarding the programme of work of the Council from July 2016 to July 2017 will be held on Thursday, 28 July, and Friday, 29 July 2016.

1st plenary meeting
24 July 2015

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
15 July 2016

2016 session
Agenda item 12 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 2 June 2016

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2016/L.17)*]

2016/2. Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming its agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[1] and recalling its resolutions on the subject matter, including resolutions 2011/6 of 14 July 2011, 2012/24 of 27 July 2012, 2013/16 of 24 July 2013, 2014/2 of 12 June 2014 and 2015/12 of 10 June 2015,

Reaffirming also the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,[2] the 2005 World Summit,[3] the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals[4] and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[5] as well as the recognition of the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls expressed at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda,[6] the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,[7] the third International Conference on Financing for Development,[8] the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[9] the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem[10] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming further that their full, effective and accelerated implementation is integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

[2] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[3] See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[4] See General Assembly resolution 65/1.

[5] See General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

[6] See General Assembly resolution 70/1.

[7] See General Assembly resolution 69/283, annex II.

[8] See General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

[9] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[10] See General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex.

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Reaffirming further the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres and to further undertake to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the promotion of gender equality,

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and constitutes a critical strategy in the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[11] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[12] in the full implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[13] and for catalysing progress, where applicable, on the outcomes of their reviews, as well as in the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and its subsequent resolutions on women and peace and security,

Underlining the catalytic role played by the Commission on the Status of Women and the important roles played by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, taking note of the agreed conclusions and decisions of the Commission related to the promotion and monitoring of gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, and reaffirming the political declaration on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, adopted by the Commission at its fifty-ninth session,[14]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 67/226 of 21 December 2012, entitled "Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", including in particular section III.D on gender equality and women's empowerment,

Recalling also the section of General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 entitled "Strengthening the institutional arrangements for support of gender equality and the empowerment of women",

Noting that while the United Nations system has evidenced steady annual progress in implementing the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, the rate of progress remains insufficient to meet all performance requirements by the 2017 deadline set by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[15] and the recommendations contained therein, and appreciates that it continues to include comprehensive and systematic system-wide data collection and evidence-based analysis, allowing for comprehensive follow-up on progress made throughout the United Nations system in the implementation of resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on gender mainstreaming;

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[11] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[12] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[13] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[14] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 7* (E/2015/27), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 59/1, annex.

[15] E/2016/57.

2. *Urges* intensifying and continuing efforts to mainstream a gender perspective, including increasing resource allocations commensurate with gender equality goals, into all policies and programmes of the United Nations, in accordance with all relevant United Nations resolutions;

3. *Stresses* that the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality constitutes a key forum for advocating, coordinating and monitoring progress in the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into the overall substantive normative, operational and programmatic work within the United Nations system, and looks forward to the continued role of the Network in monitoring progress on more effective coordination, coherence and impact in accelerating the implementation of the policy and strategy for gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

4. *Also stresses* the need to leverage existing inter-agency networks, including the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, the United Nations Evaluation Group, the Finance and Budget Network of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the Representatives of Internal Audit Services of the United Nations Organizations and Multilateral Financial Institutions, to take increased responsibility for the implementation of relevant performance indicators of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women;

5. *Welcomes* the important and continued extensive work of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for more effective and coherent gender mainstreaming across the United Nations, recognizes its role in leading, coordinating and promoting accountability of the United Nations system in its work to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women as established by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/289, and also recognizes its role in assisting Member States, upon their request, at the international, regional, national and local levels;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening the capacity of UN-Women, including through adequate funding, to carry out its mandates for normative support, coordination and operational functions, inter alia, for coordinating the United Nations system in the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective and the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[11] and of its review and appraisal at the international, regional, national and local levels, as well as its contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[6] including through systematic gender mainstreaming, the mobilization of resources to deliver results and the monitoring of progress with data and robust accountability systems;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective in accordance with previous Economic and Social Council resolutions and General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 67/226, commensurate with the gender-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, bearing in mind that gender equality is essential for the implementation and achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals, including by:

(*a*) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all its operational mechanisms, inter alia, the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, or their equivalents, and other common programming frameworks;

(*b*) Ensuring that managers provide strong leadership and support, within the United Nations system, to promote and advance gender mainstreaming;

(*c*) Increasing the investment in and focus on outputs and outcomes relating to gender equality and the empowerment of women, including through enhanced common budgetary frameworks, joint funding mechanisms and joint resource mobilization efforts;

(*d*) Strengthening monitoring, evaluation and reporting so as to allow for system-wide assessment of progress in gender mainstreaming;

(*e*) Mobilizing and developing sufficient gender expertise for planning, implementation and gender-related resource allocation and tracking;

(*f*) Mainstreaming gender-responsive planning and budgeting, harmonizing gender marker systems and enhancing system-wide capacity for their increased implementation, including within the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, or their equivalents, and intensifying their use, including in the humanitarian programme cycle;

(*g*) Strengthening capacities and using existing resources, including institutions and infrastructure, to assist in the development and application of unified training modules and tools on gender mainstreaming;

(*h*) Continuing and, where appropriate, strengthening efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments in the Professional and higher categories within the United Nations system at the headquarters, regional and country levels, including in appointments of resident coordinators, humanitarian coordinators, Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, Deputy Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and other high-level posts, in full compliance with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations and keeping in mind the principle of equitable geographical representation, with due regard to the representation of women from developing countries;

(*i*) Enhancing technical support to Member States, upon their request, in order to build or improve national capacity for gender statistics and the collection and analysis of data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in the national context;

(*j*) Supporting the efforts of Member States, upon their request, to benefit from the knowledge and expertise of the United Nations development system on gender mainstreaming in an integrated and "whole-of-system" manner, which draws on the mandates and contributions of all United Nations entities with regard to achieving the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue and increase support to Member States, with their agreement and consent, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and of national policies for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, inter alia, by providing support and capacity development to national machineries for the empowerment of all women and girls and all national entities, in accordance with their functions;

9. *Welcomes* the report on the fourth year of implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan,[15] and commends the progress made under the leadership of UN-Women in the performance of the United Nations system on

gender mainstreaming, while noting with concern, however, that many entities have not yet met the requirements set forth in the Action Plan and recognizing the need for accelerated implementation;

10. *Continues to express serious concern* that progress in achieving 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations system, especially at the senior and policymaking levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, remains insufficient and that the representation of women in the United Nations system has remained almost static, with negligible improvement in some parts of the system, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on improvement in the status of women in the United Nations system;[16]

11. *Requests* the continued use of reporting under the United Nations System-wide Action Plan to inform the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, in order to measure the progress of the United Nations system on gender mainstreaming at the corporate level against the baseline defined in 2013;

12. *Encourages* the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and senior managers within its three pillars, namely, the High-level Committee on Programmes, the High-level Committee on Management and the United Nations Development Group, to continue to take concrete action to promote gender mainstreaming in the United Nations system, and in this regard takes note of the commitment of the Chief Executives Board, as expressed in its statement to the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, to stepping up efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls under all respective mandates, including through pursuing systematic gender mainstreaming, substantially increasing resources to deliver results, especially under the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, monitoring progress with better statistics and data disaggregated by gender, ethnicity, disability and age, instituting robust accountability systems, including through the full implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan, and accelerating progress towards the equal representation of women at all levels in its diverse bodies, including through temporary special measures;

13. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interactive dialogue with representatives of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, held during the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, as an example of exchanging best practices and approaches to considering gender equality in the work of the functional commissions, enhancing the attention of intergovernmental bodies to gender equality issues and promoting an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes,[17] and encourages the holding of similar interactive dialogues at future sessions of the Commission, as appropriate;

14. *Recognizes* that large gaps remain between policy and practice and that, while building the capacities of United Nations staff is very important, additional efforts, such as those recommended in the report of the Secretary-General,[15] would enable the entire United Nations system to accomplish its objectives with respect to gender mainstreaming;

[16] A/69/346 and Corr.1.

[17] See E/CN.6/2015/INF/12.

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective organizational mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to enhance and accelerate gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, including by:

(*a*) Fully implementing the United Nations System-wide Action Plan, including by ensuring compliance with all performance indicators and enhancing the consistency and accuracy of reporting of all entities of the United Nations system;

(*b*) Increasing investments to address issues in critical areas of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan, including policy development, resource tracking and allocation, the equal representation and participation of women, organizational culture, and capacity development and assessment;

(*c*) Continuing to better align gender equality programming with national priorities across sectors, including by supporting capacity-building for government institutions and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into legislations, policies and programmes in relation to national gender equality priorities;

(*d*) Continuing to include gender equality networks in planning and programme implementation, as well as continuing to build strategic partnerships with relevant actors, including civil society and women's organizations, as appropriate;

(*e*) Further enhancing the technical expertise on gender equality and gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system to assist in the preparation of the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and other relevant common programming frameworks, ensuring that gender-related goals and targets are strategically prioritized and that all their dimensions are systematically addressed, and promoting the identification and exchange of best practices and technical cooperation;

(*f*) Leveraging the leadership and convening role of resident coordinators to address gender equality as an integral part of the work of the United Nations country teams, including through joint initiatives, collective advocacy and strengthening coordination of gender-responsive operational activities across sectors;

(*g*) Supporting efforts by the governing bodies of United Nations entities to devote adequate attention to gender mainstreaming in their plans and activities;

(*h*) Enhancing the competence of staff in results-based management and programming for gender equality;

(*i*) Tracking gender-related resource allocation and expenditure, including through the use of harmonized gender marker systems to allow for comparability and aggregation;

(*j*) Promoting strategic advocacy and coherent communications on gender equality issues within the United Nations country teams;

(*k*) Continuing to work closely with the humanitarian coordinators to integrate gender equality into all facets of humanitarian action, and ensuring the equal promotion and protection of human rights for all, with equitable access to services;

(*l*) Substantially increasing the resources and focus on outcomes and outputs relating to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, especially under the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, including through better budgetary planning, common budgetary frameworks, strengthening and

rationalizing joint funding mechanisms and joint resource mobilization efforts, as well as by strengthening the predictability and sustainability of the funding, broadening the donor base and increasing the flexibility of non-core resources;

(*m*) Continuing to support the capacity to develop and enhance standards and methodologies, for use at the local, regional, national and international levels, so as to improve the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of accurate, reliable, transparent and comparable data and statistics, and, where applicable and with due respect for confidentiality, open data and statistics related to achieving gender equality, disaggregated by, inter alia, sex, age and disability, that are relevant to improving its guidance to country programming;

(*n*) Supporting the application of a gender perspective in the preparation of organization-wide and country-level documents, such as the strategic, programmatic and results-based frameworks and evaluations, and continuing to promote more coherent, accurate and effective monitoring and reporting on progress on gender equality, the impact of the promotion of gender equality and the use of common indicators on gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, taking into account the situation of women and girls who face discrimination and marginalization and those in vulnerable situations;

(*o*) Continuing to promote the institutionalization of transparency and robust accountability systems, with a focus on assessing gender mainstreaming, including at the level of United Nations country teams, through capitalizing on the lessons learned from the design and implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan, while both expanding and drawing on assets and resources instituted to support the implementation of such transparency and accountability systems;

(*p*) Ensuring further complementarity of United Nations accountability systems for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, specifically through enhanced linkages of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan and the gender scorecard of United Nations country teams, and expanding their respective scopes in order to encompass a greater focus on results related to the Sustainable Development Goals;

(*q*) Striving for both dedicated results at the outcome level and the mainstreaming of gender equality considerations through other priority areas;

(*r*) Ensuring adequate resources for meeting gender-related goals and targets across the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its 2017 session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the promotion of accountability at both the national and the global levels and on progress made in the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan.

27th plenary meeting
2 June 2016

United Nations E/RES/2016/3

Economic and Social Council

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22 July 2016

2016 session
Agenda item 19 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 2 June 2016

[*on the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/2016/27)*]

2016/3. Multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that, in its resolutions 1987/24 of 26 May 1987, 1990/15 of 24 May 1990, 1996/6 of 22 July 1996, 2001/4 of 24 July 2001, 2006/9 of 25 July 2006, 2009/15 of 28 July 2009 and 2013/18 of 24 July 2013, the Council adopted multi-year programmes of work for a focused and thematic approach for the Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling also that in its resolution 2013/18 the Council requested the Commission at its sixtieth session to decide on its future multi-year programme of work,

Recalling further its resolution 2015/6 of 8 June 2015, in which the Council requested the Commission to continue to apply a thematic approach to its work and to adopt a multi-year programme of work to allow for predictability and adequate time for preparation; in selecting its priority theme, taking into consideration, in addition to the Beijing Platform for Action[1] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[2] the programme of work of the Council, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[3] so as to build synergies and contribute to the work of the Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, according to the modalities to be established by the Assembly and the Council in the context of the high-level political forum,

Recalling that the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, in accordance with their respective mandates and with Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and other relevant resolutions, should constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that would play the primary role in overall policymaking and follow-up and in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Platform for Action, and reaffirming the catalytic role of the Commission in mainstreaming a gender perspective in policies and programmes,

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[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[3] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

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Acknowledging the centrality of the Beijing Platform for Action to the work of the Commission, and recognizing that a robust, voluntary, effective, participatory, transparent and integrated follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda will make a vital contribution to the implementation of the Platform for Action and help countries to maximize and track progress in order to ensure that no one is left behind,

Recalling the invitation to the Commission to consider the issue of the empowerment of indigenous women at a future session, as stated in paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 69/2 of 22 September 2014, and acknowledging the intention to place this issue as a focus area of its sixty-first session,

1. *Decides* that the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women for the sixty-first, sixty-second and sixty-third sessions will be as follows:

(*a*) Sixty-first session (2017):

(i) Priority theme: Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work;

(ii) Review theme: Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls (agreed conclusions of the fifty-eighth session);

(*b*) Sixty-second session (2018):

(i) Priority theme: Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls;

(ii) Review theme: Participation in and access of women to the media, and information and communications technologies and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women (agreed conclusions of the forty-seventh session);

(*c*) Sixty-third session (2019):

(i) Priority theme: Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

(ii) Review theme: Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development (agreed conclusions of the sixtieth session);

2. *Requests* the Commission, in order to achieve concrete results in each review cycle, to consider and make a recommendation at its sixty-second session on how best to utilize the year 2020, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, so as to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

3. *Affirms* that the Commission will contribute to the thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals taking place at the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

27th plenary meeting
2 June 2016

United Nations E/RES/2016/4

Economic and Social Council

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22 July 2016

2016 session
Agenda item 19 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 2 June 2016

[*on the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/2016/27)*]

2016/4. Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,[3] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[4]

Recalling also its resolution 2015/13 of 10 June 2015 and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict and Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 on women and peace and security,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women[5] as it concerns the protection of civilian populations,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[6] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[6] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[7] and reaffirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

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[1] E/CN.6/2016/6.

[2] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15–26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[3] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[4] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[5] General Assembly resolution 48/104.

[6] See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

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Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council,

Taking note of the accession by the State of Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law treaties,

Expressing deep concern about the grave situation of Palestinian women in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, resulting from the severe impact of the ongoing illegal Israeli occupation and all of its manifestations,

Expressing grave concern about the increased difficulties being faced by Palestinian women and girls living under Israeli occupation, including as a result of the continuation of home demolitions, evictions of Palestinians, the revocation of residency rights, and arbitrary detention and imprisonment, as well as high rates of poverty, unemployment, food insecurity, inadequate water supply and unsafe drinking water, shortage of electricity and fuel, incidents of domestic violence and declining health, education and living standards, including the rising incidence of trauma and the decline in their psychological well-being, particularly in the Gaza Strip, where a humanitarian disaster continues to severely affect the situation of women and girls,

Deploring the dire economic and social conditions of Palestinian women and girls in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the systematic violation of their human rights resulting from the severe impact of ongoing illegal Israeli practices, including the forced displacement and transfer of civilians, especially among the Bedouin community, and confiscation of land, particularly in connection with the construction and expansion of settlements and the wall, which continue to constitute a major obstacle to peace on the basis of the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders, and the continued imposition of closures and restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including the permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which have detrimentally affected their right to health care, including access of pregnant women to health-care services for antenatal care and safe delivery, education, employment, development and freedom of movement,

Expressing grave concern about all acts of violence, intimidation and provocation by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians, including women and children, and properties, including homes, mosques, churches and agricultural lands, condemning acts of terror by several extremist Israeli settlers, and calling for accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated in this regard,

Gravely concerned by the tensions and violence in the recent period throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and deploring the loss of innocent civilian life, including among girls and women, as a result of excessive and indiscriminate use of force by Israeli occupying forces,

Condemning the military conflict in and around the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014 and the civilian casualties caused, including the killing and injury of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including hundreds of children, women and elderly persons, as well as the widespread destruction of homes and critical civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, water, sanitation and electricity networks, economic, industrial and agricultural properties, public institutions, religious sites and United Nations schools and facilities, as well as the internal displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians, and any violations of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law,

Taking note of the report and findings of the independent commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1,[8] and stressing the need to ensure accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in order to end impunity, ensure justice, deter further violations, protect civilians and promote peace,

Gravely concerned, in particular, by the persisting disastrous humanitarian situation and socioeconomic conditions in the Gaza Strip, including those resulting from the Israeli military operations in July and August 2014, as well as the long-term negative impact of Israeli military operations from December 2008 to January 2009 and in November 2012, and the continuing imposition of a blockade consisting of the prolonged closure of border crossings and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, as well as the continued impeding of the reconstruction process by Israel, the occupying Power, which has detrimentally affected every aspect of the lives of the civilian population, especially women and children, in the Gaza Strip,

Stressing the need for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, consistent with the provisions and obligations under international humanitarian law,

Stressing also the importance of providing assistance, especially emergency assistance, to alleviate the dire socioeconomic and humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women and their families, and recognizing the essential efforts and support being provided by the United Nations agencies and other humanitarian aid organizations on the ground, particularly in response to the grave humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip,

Recalling the convening of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, on 12 October 2014, and urging the timely and full disbursement of pledges for expediting the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process, which is essential for alleviating the distress of Palestinian women and their families,

Expressing grave concern that Palestinian women and girls continue to be held in Israeli prisons or detention centres under harsh conditions, including, inter alia, unhygienic conditions, solitary confinement, extensive use of administrative detention of excessive duration without charge and denial of due process, and noting that women and girls also face gender-specific challenges, including inadequate access to medical care, risks associated with pregnancy and giving birth in prison and sexual harassment,

Reiterating the importance of increasing the role of women in peacebuilding and decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and the peaceful resolution of conflicts as part of efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of all women in the region, and stressing the importance of women's equal participation and involvement in all efforts for the achievement, maintenance and promotion of peace and security,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli occupation remains the major obstacle for Palestinian women with regard to their advancement, self-reliance and integration in the development of their society, and stresses the importance of efforts to increase

[8] A/HRC/29/52.

their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution and to ensure their equal participation and involvement in all efforts for the achievement, maintenance and promotion of peace and security;

2. *Calls upon* the international community, in this regard, to continue to provide urgently needed assistance, especially emergency assistance, and services, bearing in mind, inter alia, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development [9] and national priorities, in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian women and their families, in particular for addressing the humanitarian crisis and immense reconstruction and recovery needs in the Gaza Strip, and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions, with the integration of a gender perspective into all of its international assistance programmes, commends the achievements of the Palestinian Government in constructing the institutions of an independent Palestinian State, as confirmed by international institutions, including by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations, and calls for continued support of these efforts;

3. *Calls upon* international donors to fulfil without delay all pledges made on 12 October 2014 at the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, in order to expedite the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process, which is essential for alleviating the distress of Palestinian women and their families;

4. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions and principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, [10] the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 18 October 1907, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949 [11] and all other relevant rules, principles and instruments of international law, including the International Covenants on Human Rights, [6] in order to protect the rights of Palestinian women and their families;

5. *Urges* the international community to continue to give special attention to the promotion and protection of the human rights of Palestinian women and girls and to intensify its measures to improve the difficult conditions being faced by Palestinian women and their families living under Israeli occupation;

6. *Calls upon* Israel to facilitate the return of all refugees and displaced Palestinian women and children to their homes and properties, in compliance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

7. *Urges* the international community to make renewed efforts aimed at advancing and accelerating the conclusion of a peace treaty based on clear parameters and with a defined time frame to attain without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 by resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues, without exception, for a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, in accordance with the internationally recognized basis of the two-State solution, and of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole, for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East;

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[9] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

[10] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

8. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action[3] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";[4]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation, to assist Palestinian women by all available means, including those laid out in his report,[1] and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-first session a report, including information provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

27th plenary meeting
2 June 2016

United Nations E/RES/2016/5

Economic and Social Council

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15 July 2016

2016 session
Agenda item 12 (*f*)

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 2 June 2016

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2016/L.16)*]

2016/5. United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2013/12 of 22 July 2013, 2014/10 of 13 June 2014 and 2015/8 of 9 June 2015 on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,

Acknowledging that the global burden and threat of non-communicable diseases, principally cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which are linked to four main risk factors, namely, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, as well as the global burden of mental health and neurological issues, constitute major challenges for economic and social development in the twenty-first century and may lead to increasing inequalities within and between countries and populations,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets and affirmed its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also General Assembly resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

16-10229 (E)

Please recycle

Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while highlighting the integrality of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular, goals and targets related to health and non-communicable diseases,

Welcoming also that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda recognizes that, as part of a comprehensive strategy of prevention and control, price and tax measures on tobacco can be an effective and important means of reducing tobacco consumption and health-care costs and represent a revenue stream for financing for development in many countries,

Welcoming further that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda supports, inter alia, research and development of vaccines and medicines, as well as preventive measures and treatments for communicable and non-communicable diseases,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases [1] and the recommendations contained therein, including to report annually on progress made in implementing Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/12;

2. *Encourages* members of the Task Force to continue to work together in a coordinated manner, as part of a relevant, coherent, efficient and effective United Nations system, to support national efforts to implement the commitments included in the 2011 political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases[2] and the 2014 outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[3] building on guidance set out in the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020;[4]

3. *Also encourages* members of the Task Force to provide support to Member States in reflecting the new non-communicable disease-related targets included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development [5] in their national development plans and policies, in order to enable them to accelerate progress on specific non-communicable disease-related targets, and encourages Member States to access the available United Nations policy expertise on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its 2017 session on progress achieved in implementing resolution 2013/12, under the sub-item entitled "Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases" of the item entitled "Coordination, programme and other questions", in preparation for a comprehensive review by the General Assembly, in 2018, of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.

28th plenary meeting
2 June 2016

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[1] E/2016/53.

[2] General Assembly resolution 66/2, annex.

[3] General Assembly resolution 68/300.

[4] World Health Organization, document WHA66/2013/REC/1, annex 4.

[5] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

United Nations E/RES/2016/6

Economic and Social Council

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2016 session
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Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 2 June 2016

[*on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development (E/2016/26)*]

2016/6. Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2005/11 of 21 July 2005, 2006/18 of 26 July 2006, 2008/19 of 24 July 2008, 2010/10 of 22 July 2010, 2012/7 of 26 July 2012 and 2014/3 of 12 June 2014 on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 50/161 of 22 December 1995 on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013, entitled "Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council", in which the Assembly stipulated that the Council should invite, inter alia, its subsidiary bodies to contribute, as appropriate, to its work in keeping with the agreed annual theme and that it should ensure the harmonization and coordination of the agendas and work programmes of the functional commissions by promoting a clearer division of labour among them and providing clearer policy guidance to them,[1]

Recognizing the commitment, and emphasizing the need, to strengthen the Council, within its mandate under the Charter of the United Nations as a principal organ of the Organization, in the integrated and coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, and recognizing the key role of the Council in achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the Commission continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly[2] and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues,

[1] General Assembly resolution 68/1, annex, paras. 3 and 8.
[2] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

16-10230 (E)

Please recycle

Bearing in mind its resolution 1995/60 of 28 July 1995, by which it decided that the Commission should, inter alia, adapt its mandate so as to ensure an integrated approach to social development, review and update its methods of work, and make recommendations regarding social development to the Council,

Recalling its resolution 1996/7 of 22 July 1996, by which it decided that the Commission, in fulfilling its mandate, shall assist the Council in monitoring, reviewing and appraising the progress achieved and problems encountered in the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[3] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[4] and shall advise the Council thereon,

Recognizing the importance of the role of non-governmental organizations, as well as other civil society actors, in advancing the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action and, in this respect, the work of the Commission,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda,

Recognizing that the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action, the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[5] the World Programme of Action for Youth,[6] the objectives of the International Year of the Family and their follow-up processes and the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond,[7] as well as the fulfilment of the obligations of States parties under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[8] and other relevant key instruments, are mutually reinforcing to advance social development for all,

Recognizing also that a robust, voluntary, effective, participatory, transparent and integrated follow-up and review framework will make a vital contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and will help countries to maximize and track progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda to ensure that no one is left behind,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, in promoting the integrated treatment of social development issues in the United Nations system, shall review, on a periodic basis, issues related to the follow-up and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[3] and the Programme of Action of

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[3] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[6] General Assembly resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

[7] General Assembly resolution 68/3.

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

the World Summit for Social Development,[4] in a manner consistent with the functions and contributions of the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and shall advise the Council thereon;

2. *Affirms* that the Commission will contribute to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[9] within its existing mandate, by supporting the thematic reviews of the high-level political forum on sustainable development on progress on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including cross-cutting issues, which should reflect the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them, while engaging all relevant stakeholders and, where possible, feeding into and being aligned with the cycle of the high-level political forum, according to the organizational arrangements to be established by the General Assembly and the Council;

3. *Decides* that the Commission will report on social aspects related to the agreed main theme of the Council in order to contribute to its work;

4. *Also decides* to maintain the two-year review and policy cycle for the 2017 and 2018 sessions of the Commission;

5. *Reaffirms* that the officers elected to the Bureau of the Commission shall continue to be elected for a term of office of two years, in parallel with the 2017–2018 review and policy cycle;

6. *Decides* that the priority theme for the 2017–2018 review and policy cycle, which shall allow the Commission to contribute to the work of the Council, will be "Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all";

7. *Also decides* to consider the biennialization of the resolutions of the Commission, with a view to eliminating duplication and overlap and promoting complementarity in the consideration and negotiation of similar or related issues between the Council and the General Assembly;

8. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to continue to actively participate in the work of the Commission at an appropriately high level;

9. *Encourages* non-governmental organizations, as well as other civil society actors, to participate, to the maximum extent possible, in line with Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, in the work of the Commission and in the monitoring and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;[2]

10. *Decides* that the Commission shall keep its methods of work under review, including at its fifty-fifth session in 2017, in order to adjust, as appropriate, to the work and the cycle of the Council.

28th plenary meeting
2 June 2016

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[9] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

United Nations E/RES/2016/7

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Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 2 June 2016

[*on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development (E/2016/26)*]

2016/7. Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,[1] and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,[2] the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held in New York from 25 to 27 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",[3] and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[4] reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000[5] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6] and recalling the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[7] the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of 16 September 2002,[8] General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[9]

Recognizing the commitments made with regard to meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit and reaffirmed in the political declaration on

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

[3] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

[4] General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

[5] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[6] General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[7] General Assembly resolution 65/1.

[8] General Assembly resolution 57/2.

[9] General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

16-10231 (E)

Please recycle

Africa's development needs adopted at the high-level meeting held at United Nations Headquarters on 22 September 2008,[10] and noting the conclusions of the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa, held in Ouagadougou on 8 and 9 September 2004, including relevant decisions of African Union summits related to the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling the fourth session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Social Development, on the theme "Strengthening the African family for inclusive development in Africa", held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 May 2014, and the first session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment, on the theme "Social protection for inclusive development", held in Addis Ababa from 20 to 24 April 2015, recalling in this regard the African Common Position on Social Integration and the Social Policy Framework for Africa, both of which were endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in February 2009, as well as the African Common Position on Good Practices in Family Policy Development and Implementation, for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2014), and the renewed Continental Plan of Action on the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2010–2019), which were endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in January 2013, and taking note of the African Common Position on the Human Rights of Older Persons in Africa,

Recalling also the Johannesburg Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, held from 3 to 5 December 2015, and its outcome documents, the Johannesburg Declaration and the Johannesburg Action Plan (2016–2018),

Reaffirming the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its 10-year implementation plan, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

Reaffirming also General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets and affirmed its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming further General Assembly resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong

[10] General Assembly resolution 63/1.

political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Noting with appreciation the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa adopted by the African Union, which calls for the creation of an enabling environment for adequate investments and the adoption of the sector reforms needed to produce the expected results aimed at promoting economic and social development and reducing poverty on the continent through the implementation of integrated regional infrastructure networks,

Welcoming the ministerial statement on the theme "Implementing Agenda 2063: planning, mobilizing and financing for development", adopted by the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development at their eighth joint meeting, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 March 2015,

Remaining concerned that, while Africa made steady progress towards the attainment of the targets of the Millennium Development Goals, that progress was, however, not enough for all countries to attain all of the Goals by 2015, and in this regard emphasizing that concerted efforts and continued support are required to fulfil the commitments to address the special needs of Africa and to the full realization of all the Millennium Development Goals, including the off-track Millennium Development Goals, in particular by providing focused and scaled-up assistance to least developed countries and other countries in special situations, in line with relevant support programmes,

Noting with concern the continued prevalence of child, early and forced marriage, and welcoming in this regard the Africa-wide campaign to end child marriage in Africa launched at the Conference of Ministers of Social Development held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 May 2014,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of the consequences of the world financial and economic crisis, including on development, and evidence of an uneven, fragile and slow recovery, cognizant that the global economy, notwithstanding significant efforts that helped to contain tail risks, improve financial market conditions and stability and sustain recovery, still remains in a challenging phase, with downside risks, including high volatility in global markets, excessive volatility of commodity prices, high unemployment, particularly among young people, unsustainable debt in some countries and widespread fiscal strains, which pose challenges for global economic recovery and reflect the need for additional progress towards sustaining and rebalancing global demand, and stressing the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date,

Recognizing that, while global growth is returning, there is a need to further strengthen the recovery, which is still uneven, stressing the urgent need for full recovery and sustainable, inclusive, sustained and accelerated growth, which translates into new productive employment opportunities, secure incomes and improved livelihoods, and reaffirming the need to continue to support the special needs of Africa and to take action to mitigate the multidimensional impacts of the crisis on the continent,

Expressing grave concern at the recent recurrence of the Ebola virus disease in some parts of West Africa and its unprecedented nature and scope, and the potential reversal of the gains made in recent years by the three countries most affected by the Ebola outbreak in the areas of peacebuilding, political stability and the reconstruction of socioeconomic infrastructure,

Noting that Africa is abundantly endowed with natural resources, including many industrial minerals and agricultural resources that are exported mainly in primary form, and that the exploitation of the natural resources sector in Africa has for many years attracted foreign direct investment in capital-intensive enclave sectors that has the potential, when paired with appropriate policies, including employment-intensive policies, to spur structural transformation, create employment, contribute to poverty eradication and reduce inequality,

Emphasizing that the African Union and the regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[11] and in this regard encouraging African countries, with the assistance of their development partners, to increase and coordinate effectively their support for enhancing the capacities of these institutions and to promote regional cooperation and social and economic integration in Africa,

Recognizing the regional coordination mechanism of United Nations agencies and organizations working in Africa in support of the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa's Development Programme of Action, as well as the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership as a technical body of the African Union, which aims to ensure coordination and coherence in the delivery of support for greater effectiveness and impact through increased joint programming and joint implementation of activities,

Recognizing also that capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and best practices are essential for the successful implementation of the New Partnership, and recognizing further the need for continued support from the international community, partners of the New Partnership and United Nations agencies to continue to work towards sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development on the African continent and for greater synergy and effective coordination between the New Partnership and the international initiatives related to Africa, and emphasizing the importance of the close collaboration of the African Union Commission and the United Nations as the co-organizers of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development,

Recognizing further that investments in people, especially their social protection, health and inclusive and equitable quality education, are essential to enhancing agricultural productivity and performance, and thereby key to growth and poverty reduction, through increasing decent job creation and employability opportunities, especially for women and youth, improving food security and nutrition and building resilience,

Recognizing that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets and that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is crucial,

[11] A/57/304, annex.

Recognizing also that the lack of access to drinking water and proper sanitation contributes to slow progress in reducing Africa's disease burden, particularly among the poorest populations, in both rural and urban areas, and conscious of the impact of the lack of sanitation on people's health, poverty reduction efforts, economic and social development and the environment, in particular water resources,

Noting with appreciation that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and bilateral donors have provided substantial debt relief to 36 countries, 30 of which are in Africa, that have reached the completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, which has considerably reduced their debt vulnerability and enabled them to increase their investments in social services,

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized and that the development efforts of such countries need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[12]

Noting other relevant forums, such as the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation and its first high-level meeting, on the theme "Building towards an inclusive post-2015 development agenda", held in Mexico City on 15 and 16 April 2014, and looking forward to its next meeting, to be held in Nairobi late in 2016,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[13]

2. *Welcomes* the progress made by African Governments in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development[11] to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encouraging them, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to intensify their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and creating an environment conducive to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

3. *Also welcomes* the good progress that has been made in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, as reflected in particular by the number of countries that have signed up to participate in the Mechanism, the completion of the peer review process in some countries, the progress in implementing the recommendations of those reviews in those countries and the completion of the annual progress reports and self-assessment processes, the hosting of country support missions and the launching of national preparatory processes for the peer review in others, and urges African States that have not yet done so to join the Mechanism as a matter of priority and to strengthen the peer review process so as to ensure its efficient performance;

4. *Further welcomes* the adoption of Agenda 2063 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fourth ordinary

[12] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[13] E/CN.5/2016/2.

session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2015, as the African Union long-term strategy emphasizing industrialization, youth employment, improved natural resource governance and the reduction of inequalities;

5. *Recognizes* the progress that has been made in the implementation of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, particularly through the mechanism of the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative, under which impressive progress has been recorded in the conception of many critical infrastructure projects on the continent;

6. *Stresses* that industrialization is a critical engine of economic and social development, and emphasizes the need to accelerate Africa's industrialization by the adoption and implementation of specific measures and actions at the national, regional and continental levels and with the support of and in collaboration with development partners and the international community;

7. *Also stresses* the importance of taking measures to promote the dynamic diversification of African economies through transforming African economies from resource dependence, increasing local processing of and value addition to natural resources in order to expand the domestic economy and increase revenue, and developing new industries in order to transform lives and create opportunities for more and better jobs;

8. *Welcomes* the efforts made by African countries and regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women and girls in the implementation of the New Partnership, including the implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa;

9. *Also welcomes* the decision taken by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-third ordinary session, held in Malabo on 26 and 27 June 2014, to proclaim 2016 the African Year of Human Rights with Particular Focus on the Rights of Women;

10. *Notes* that health is a precondition, an indicator and an outcome of sustainable development and that, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[3] robust efforts are needed to sustain gains made under the Millennium Development Goals and integrate additional health issues into a broad health and development agenda, particularly the extension of universal health coverage;

11. *Stresses* the importance of improving maternal and child health, in this regard welcomes the declaration of the African Union summit on maternal, infant and child health and development, held in Kampala from 19 to 27 July 2010, and acknowledges the ongoing activities of the Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa;

12. *Encourages* African countries to prioritize investments in building the institutional capacity of health systems, reduce health inequities within and across countries, progressively achieve universal health coverage, strengthen global health security and curb the outbreak of major diseases;

13. *Invites* development partners to continue to assist African countries in their efforts to strengthen national health systems, including by providing skilled health personnel, reliable health information and data, research infrastructure and laboratory capacity, and to expand surveillance systems in the health sector, including support for the efforts to prevent, protect against and combat outbreaks of diseases, including of neglected tropical diseases, and in this context reiterates its

support for the Kampala Declaration and Agenda for Global Action and follow-up conferences to respond to the serious health workforce crisis in Africa;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the debt relief offered by international financial institutions to the countries most affected by the Ebola crisis, and invites consideration of further measures by partner countries to facilitate long-term debt management sustainability, including by enhancing debt management capabilities in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone and by considering additional debt relief on a case-by-case basis in order to alleviate the impact of the crisis on the economies of these countries and to assist in their economic recovery and development;

15. *Encourages* Member States to expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries, particularly African countries, in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies;

16. *Emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership depends also on a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development, including measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

17. *Also emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society, including non-governmental and community-based organizations, and the private sector are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

18. *Further emphasizes* that the increasingly unacceptable high levels of poverty, inequality and social exclusion faced by most African countries require a comprehensive approach to the development and implementation of social and economic policies, inter alia, to reduce poverty, to promote economic activity, growth and sustainable development in order to ensure productive employment creation and decent work for all, to promote quality education, health and social protection and to enhance equality, social inclusion, political stability, democracy and good governance at ali levels and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

19. *Emphasizes* that identifying and removing barriers to opportunity, as well as ensuring access to basic social protection and social services, are necessary to break the cycle of poverty, inequality and social exclusion;

20. *Encourages* African countries to continue to prioritize structural transformation, modernize smallholder agriculture, add value to primary commodities, improve public and private institutions of economic and political governance and invest in major public infrastructure projects and in inclusive, equitable and quality education and health in order to promote inclusive growth, generate full and productive employment and decent work for all and reduce poverty;

21. *Emphasizes* that economic development, including employment-intensive resource-based industrial development, infrastructural development and structural transformation, in particular in the rural economy, based on pragmatic and targeted policies to enhance productive capacities in Africa that are consistent with national development priorities and international commitments, can generate employment

and income for all African men and women, including the poor, and therefore be an engine for poverty eradication and for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

22. *Encourages* African countries to continue to foster political stability, promote peace and security and strengthen the governance, policy and institutional environment in order to enhance the prospects for inclusive and sustainable development, and to develop an enabling environment for the private sector to contribute to sustainable economic transformation and the creation of productive employment and decent work for all;

23. *Underlines* the fact that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of allocating 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015 and the target of allocating between 0.15 and 0.20 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so to fulfil their commitments for official development assistance to developing countries;

24. *Stresses* the essential role that official development assistance plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development efforts in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results, inclusive development partnerships and transparency and mutual accountability;

25. *Recognizes* that, while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal, and calls upon the international community to continue to support the resolution of challenges faced by developing countries, especially the least developed countries, including in Africa, to independently achieve sustainable development;

26. *Also recognizes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in the context of South-South cooperation, and encourages the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of African countries, including through trilateral cooperation;

27. *Welcomes* the various important initiatives undertaken by Africa's development partners in recent years, and in this regard emphasizes the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa through ensuring the effective implementation of existing commitments, including through the African Union/New Partnership for Africa's Development African Action Plan 2010–2015: Advancing Regional and Continental Integration in Africa, which remains at the centre of the continent's engagement with partners;

28. *Encourages* African countries to intensify their efforts to strengthen national statistical capacity in order to produce reliable and timely statistics and indicators for the monitoring of national development policies and strategies and of the implementation of commitments and the achievement of all development goals at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard urges donor countries and organizations and the international and regional statistical communities to support African countries in strengthening statistical capacity in support of development;

29. *Urges* continuous support for measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, with special emphasis on the Sustainable Development Goals related to poverty and hunger, health, education, the empowerment of women and gender equality, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance, increased foreign direct investment and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, reduced cost of sending remittances through official channels, the empowerment of women in all aspects, including economic and political aspects, the promotion of social protection systems and the conclusion of the Doha round of negotiations of the World Trade Organization;

30. *Underlines* the importance for African Governments to build the productive capacity of agriculture, as a top priority, in order to increase rural incomes and ensure access to food for net food buyers, and stresses that greater efforts should be made to promote and implement sustainable agriculture, increase access for smallholder farmers, in particular women, to necessary agricultural resources, including productive assets, and improve access to infrastructure, information and markets, and that, furthermore, efforts should be made to promote small and medium-sized enterprises that contribute to job growth and increase incomes along the agricultural value stream;

31. *Urges* African Governments, within the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, to expand investment financing to agriculture to at least 10 per cent of the annual budget of the national public sector while at the same time ensuring necessary action in policy and institutional reforms for enhanced performance of the agriculture industry and systems;

32. *Recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners that are supporting agriculture, food security and nutrition in Africa to align their efforts more specifically towards supporting the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, using the Programme's investment plans for alignment of external funding, and in this regard takes note of the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security;[14]

33. *Also recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) has fallen short of expectations, and welcomes the proclamation of the Second Decade (2008–2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/205 of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

34. *Urges* African countries to pay close attention to inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth capable of being employment-intensive, including through employment-intensive investment programmes, which should be aimed at reducing inequalities, increasing productive employment and improving real per capita incomes in both rural and urban areas;

35. *Emphasizes* the need, in particular for African countries, to enhance capacity-building for sustainable development, and in this regard calls for the strengthening of technical and scientific cooperation, including North-South,

[14] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

South-South and triangular cooperation, and reiterates the importance of human resources development, including through training, the exchange of experience and expertise, knowledge transfer and technical assistance for capacity-building, which involves strengthening institutional capacity, including planning, management and monitoring capacities;

36. *Also emphasizes* the importance of increasing international cooperation to improve the quality of and access to education, in particular for African countries, including through building and strengthening education-related infrastructure and increasing investment in education, and in this regard notes the Global Education First Initiative of the Secretary-General and its objectives and invites Member States to contribute to the Initiative, as appropriate, including through the allocation of adequate resources;

37. *Urges* African countries and development partners to meet the needs of young people and empower them, in particular by tackling the high levels of youth unemployment through the development of quality education and training programmes that address illiteracy, enhance the employability and capabilities of young people, facilitate school-to-work transitions and expand guaranteed employment schemes, where appropriate, with particular attention to disadvantaged young people in both rural and urban areas;

38. *Recognizes* that improving access to school for all girls and boys, especially the poorest and most vulnerable and marginalized, and their ability to receive a quality education, and improving the quality of education beyond primary school can have a positive impact in terms of empowerment and on social, economic and political participation and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger and can contribute directly to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

39. *Also recognizes* that Africa's youthful population creates significant opportunities for the continent's development, and underlines in this regard the importance of African countries creating appropriate policy environments to take advantage of the continent's demographic transition while adopting an inclusive results-based approach to development planning and implementation in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

40. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations, other relevant institutions and stakeholders, as appropriate, to provide relevant skills training for youth, high-quality health-care services and dynamic labour markets to employ a growing population;

41. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance support and fulfil its commitments to take further action in areas critical to Africa's economic and social development, and welcomes the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership;

42. *Welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of official development assistance and to increase its development impact, recognizes its Development Cooperation Forum, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action[15] and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the

[15] A/63/539, annex.

countries that have made commitments to them, including through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization and managing for results, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, adopted as the outcome document of the third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015,[4] and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

43. *Recognizes* the need for Governments and the international community to continue to make efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for sustainable development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries, and welcomes the various important initiatives established between African countries and their development partners in this regard;

44. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions and the African Development Bank in African countries, and invites those institutions to continue their support for the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership;

45. *Expresses deep concern* that illicit financial flows and poor legal, fiscal and regulatory frameworks for mineral resources undermine national development efforts, encourages African countries to take measures to address these challenges, and invites development partners to continue to assist African countries in tackling illicit financial flows;

46. *Encourages* Africa's development partners to continue to integrate the priorities, values and principles of the New Partnership into their development assistance programmes;

47. *Encourages* African countries and their development partners to place people at the centre of government development action, to secure core investment spending in health, education and social protection and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, recognizing that social protection floors can provide a basis from which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 101st session, on 14 June 2012;

48. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa;[16]

49. *Emphasizes* the importance for the cluster working on communication, advocacy and outreach to continue to muster international support for the New Partnership and to urge the United Nations system to demonstrate more evidence of cross-sectoral synergies to promote a comprehensive approach with regard to successive phases of planning and implementation of social development programmes in Africa;

[16] The nine clusters include infrastructure development; environment, population and urbanization; social and human development; science and technology; advocacy and communication; governance; peace and security; agriculture, food security and rural development; and industry, trade and market access.

50. *Encourages* the international community to support African countries in addressing the challenges of climate change by mobilizing and providing the financial and technological resources and capacity-building training needed to support adaptation and mitigation action;

51. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to discuss in its annual programme of work those regional programmes that promote social development so as to enable all regions to share experiences and best practices, with the agreement of concerned countries, and in this regard requests that the work programmes of the Commission include priority areas of the New Partnership, as appropriate;

52. *Invites* engagement in intergovernmental efforts to continue to improve the coherence and effectiveness of the United Nations system in support of Africa and to continue to support the Economic Commission for Africa in the execution of its mandate, particularly by working with its members to ensure that the post-2015 development agenda gives due consideration to Africa's social development priorities;

53. *Decides* that the Commission for Social Development should continue to give prominence to and raise awareness of the social dimensions of the New Partnership and give due consideration to Agenda 2063 of the African Union at its fifty-fifth session;

54. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the Economic Commission for Africa, taking into consideration General Assembly resolutions 62/179 of 19 December 2007, 63/267 of 31 March 2009, 64/258 of 16 March 2010, 65/284 of 22 June 2011, 66/286 of 23 July 2012, 67/294 of 15 August 2013, 68/301 of 17 July 2014 and 69/290 of 19 June 2015, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support", to submit to the Commission for Social Development, for its consideration at its fifty-fifth session, a report on the social dimensions of the New Partnership, including, in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies, an overview of current processes related to social development in Africa, including recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of the work of United Nations bodies while preserving the social dimensions of the New Partnership.

28th plenary meeting
2 June 2016

United Nations E/RES/2016/8

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Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 2 June 2016

[*on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development (E/2016/26)*]

2016/8. Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2014/3 of 12 June 2014, in which it decided that the priority theme for the 2015–2016 review and policy cycle of the Commission for Social Development would be "Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world",

Recalling also the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[1] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session[2] constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels, and encouraging the continued global dialogue on social development issues,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets and affirmed its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, and its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

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implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming that the internationally agreed development goals and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits provide a comprehensive basis for action at the national, regional and international levels, with the key objectives of poverty eradication, sustained economic growth and sustainable development, and recognizing the need to strengthen political impetus in their implementation and follow-up to their outcomes,

Noting with concern the uneven progress achieved, that major gaps remain and that obstacles persist in fulfilling the commitments made at the World Summit for Social Development and that there are rising inequalities within and among many countries,

Reaffirming that empowerment and participation are important for social development and that sustainable development requires the meaningful involvement and active participation of all, particularly those who are vulnerable or marginalized, with due regard to the need for the full and equal participation of women and girls,

Recognizing that nationally appropriate social protection systems can make a critical contribution to the realization of human rights for all, in particular for those who are trapped in poverty and those who are vulnerable or marginalized and subject to discrimination, and that promoting universal access to social services and providing nationally appropriate social protection floors can contribute to addressing and reducing poverty, inequality and social exclusion and promoting inclusive economic growth,

Acknowledging that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and are mutually reinforcing,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognized that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, combating inequality within and among countries, preserving the planet, creating sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and fostering social inclusion are linked to each other and are interdependent,

Recalling also that quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data will be needed to help with the measurement of progress and to ensure that no one is left behind,

Recognizing that the mobilization of domestic and international resources for social development and their effective use are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

2. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments[1] and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals are mutually

[3] E/CN.5/2016/3.

reinforcing and that the Copenhagen commitments are crucial to a coherent people-centred approach to development;

3. *Also recognizes* that poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, including promoting social dialogue, and social integration are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that an internal and external enabling environment therefore needs to be created so that these objectives can be pursued simultaneously and that policies to pursue these objectives must promote social justice, social cohesion, intergenerational solidarity and economic recovery and growth, and must be economically, socially and environmentally sustainable;

4. *Emphasizes* that the international community, through the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including of the World Summit for Social Development[1] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[2] the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[4] and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[5] has reinforced the urgency of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, combating inequality within and among countries, preserving the planet, creating sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and fostering social inclusion within the United Nations development agenda;

5. *Stresses* that Member States should take all measures necessary in order to leave no one behind, while respecting the human rights of all and promoting social protection and equal access to quality essential public services for all, such as quality education and health care, including maternity care and social care services, and recognizes that this involves the active participation of every member of society, without discrimination, in civic, social, economic, cultural and political activities and in decision-making processes;

6. *Reaffirms* the commitment to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, and recognizes that these will make a crucial contribution to progress across all of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease, to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, to improve their access to and remove barriers from all resources needed for the full exercise of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, to ensure access to quality education for women and girls to strengthen their economic independence, and to improve access to equal opportunities with men and boys in employment, leadership and decision-making at all levels, which is essential for poverty eradication and the empowerment of women and girls;

7. *Encourages* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, including social partners and civil society, to continue to develop, improve, extend and implement inclusive, effective, fiscally sustainable and nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, based on national priorities, for all members of society including those who are vulnerable or marginalized, and in this regard takes note of International Labour Organization Recommendation No. 202 on social protection floors;

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[4] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

[5] General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

8. *Stresses* that special efforts should be made to foster the participation of all members of society, including people living in poverty and those who are vulnerable or marginalized, in all aspects of political, economic, social, civic and cultural life, in particular the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as appropriate, of policies that affect them;

9. *Invites* Governments to enhance the capacity of the public administration and public services to be transparent, accountable, proactive and responsive to the needs and aspirations of all people, without discrimination of any kind, and to foster broad-based participation in governance and development processes;

10. *Underlines* the importance of adopting a coherent approach to social, economic and environmental policy, in order to ensure impact, accountability and transparency, and of enhancing coordination to achieve sustainable, inclusive development;

11. *Recognizes* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides for a more integrated and cross-sectoral approach to sustainable development, and also recognizes that social development covers a coherent set of policies and services grounded in sustainability, equity and inclusion, rather than a series of discrete, isolated or subject-specific initiatives;

12. *Calls upon* States to promote more equitable participation in and access to economic growth gains, such as through policies that aim to ensure inclusive labour markets, socially responsive macroeconomic policies in which the creation of more and better job opportunities has a key role and social inclusion strategies that promote social integration, and by providing fiscally sustainable and nationally appropriate social protection systems, including floors, for all members of society, including those who are vulnerable or marginalized;

13. *Recognizes* that the creation of full and productive employment and decent work should be a central objective of national policies and that macroeconomic policies should contribute to creating more and better job opportunities and an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship, which is essential for the creation of new jobs, and calls for the respect, promotion and realization of fundamental principles and rights at work, in accordance with the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming disability issues as an integral part of relevant sustainable development strategies;

15. *Recognizes* that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that significant additional domestic public resources, supplemented by international assistance, as appropriate, will be critical to realizing sustainable development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and also recognizes the commitment to enhance revenue administration, in particular through modernized, progressive tax systems, improved tax policy and more efficient tax collection;

16. *Also recognizes*, in this regard, that national development efforts, including social development efforts, need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance;

17. *Encourages* developed countries to implement their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries;

18. *Welcomes* the increased contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development, encourages developing countries to voluntarily step up their efforts to strengthen South-South cooperation and to further improve its development effectiveness in accordance with the provisions of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,[6] and recalls the commitment to strengthening triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise to bear in development cooperation;

19. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and all relevant stakeholders to improve data collection, analysis and monitoring to measure progress in advancing equality, social justice and participation for development policy planning, implementation and evaluation, taking regional contexts fully into account, and to share, where appropriate, relevant data and statistics with relevant agencies and bodies within the United Nations system, including the Statistical Commission, through appropriate mechanisms, and underlines the need to significantly increase the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable disaggregated data;

20. *Encourages* the international community to intensify efforts to strengthen statistical capacities in developing countries to collect disaggregated data, particularly African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, while recognizing the specific challenges facing middle-income countries;

21. *Encourages* States to engage in the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and to consider the objectives of poverty eradication, social inclusion and decent work for all in the New Urban Agenda, with a view to mobilizing all levels of government in the promotion of social development;

22. *Urges* Member States to continue to give prominence to strengthening social development, in particular to eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities, supporting the creation of full and productive employment and decent work for all and promoting social inclusion;

23. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to support national efforts to strengthen social development at the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels in a coherent, coordinated and results-based manner.

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[6] General Assembly resolution 64/222, annex.